

VENOMOUS SNAKES of IRAQ and KUWAIT



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SOLDIER-SNAKE ENCOUNTERS



TIMING OF INITIAL PHASE



SLEEPING "UNDER THE STARS"



NIGHTFIGHTING FORCE



GROUND OPERATIONS



GARRISON DUTIES

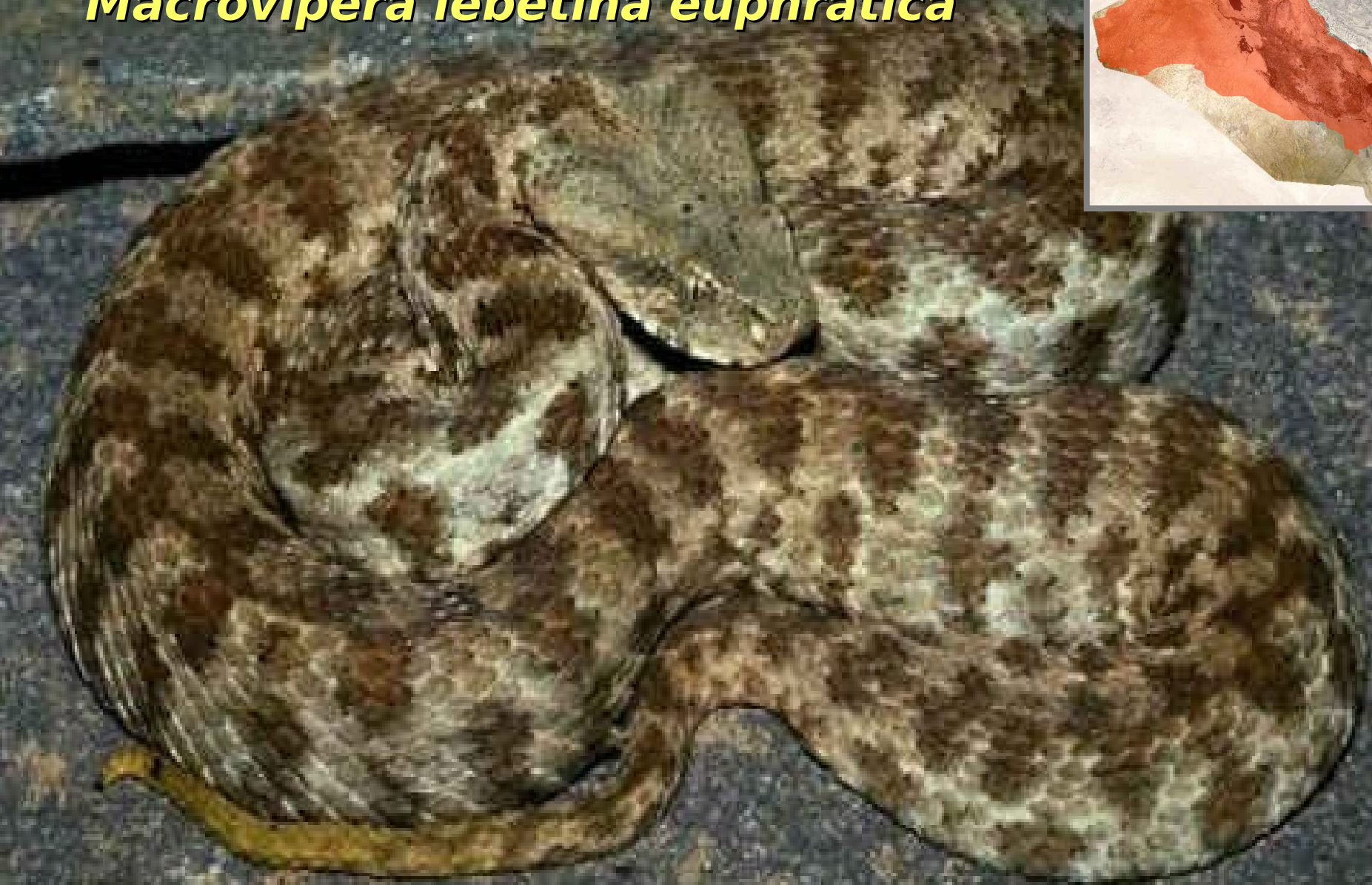
DESERT HORNED VIPER
Cerastes cerastes
gasperetti



LEVENTINE VIPER

Macrovipera lebetina obtusa

Macrovipera lebetina euphratica



SAW-SCALED VIPER
Echis carinatus sochurek



FIELDS'S SAND VIPER

Pseudocerastes persicus fieldi

PERSIAN SAND VIPER

Pseudocerastes persicus persicus



**DESERT BLACK
SNAKE**
*Walterinnesia
aegyptia*



KURDISTAN VIPER

Vipera raddei kurdistanica



INCIDENCE OF SNAKEBITES

IRAQ/KUWAIT REGION

- **Peak Incidence June and July**
- **Lower Limb Most Common Bite Site**
- **Inflicted Mostly at Night**
- ***Macrovipera lebetina* spp. Majority of Serious**



INCIDENCE OF SNAKEBITES

OPERATION DESERT STORM
OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

- **Peak Incidence April Through October**
- **Hands Most Common Bite Site**
- **Most Likely Daytime Casualties**
- ***Cerastes cerastes gasperetti* Majority of Bites**

...biggest risk comes from soldiers turning to serpents for entertainment



TROUBLE SPOTS

***“BUILD IT...
...AND THEY WILL COME.”***









PLANNING AND SUPPORT

- **SURVEILLANCE/THREAT ASSESSMENT**
- **CONTROL**
- **CARE OF BITE VICTIMS**
- **ANTIVENIN POLICY**
- **TROOP DISCIPLINE AND MORALE**